

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Guggenbichler, J. Peter et al
Serial No.: To Be Assigned
Filed: Herewith
For: PROCESS FOR PREPARING
ANTIMICROBIAL PLASTIC
BODIES HAVING
IMPROVED LONG-TIME
PERFORMANCE


Examiner:
Group Art Unit:

Docket No. VOS0005/US

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL821302153US

PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.101 I CERTIFY THAT ON JANUARY 30, 2002,
THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.


JAMIE A. EBACH

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Before examination of the above-identified US patent application, please
amend the application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 5.

Please enter amendments as follows:

1. A process for preparing an antimicrobial plastic body, said process comprising molding a precursor and being characterized in that prior to molding at least one component of the precursor is treated with a metal colloid and inorganic particles are added to the precursor.

4. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein apart from polymeric materials further additives are added to the plastic precursor.
6. The process as claimed in claim 1 wherein said inorganic particles comprise barium sulfate, calcium sulfate, strontium sulfate, titanium oxide, aluminium oxide, silicon oxide, zeolites, mica, talcum or kaolin.
8. The process as claimed in claim 1 wherein one or several of the components of the precursor are treated with said colloidal metal.
9. The process as claimed in claim 4 wherein said plastic as well as said inorganic particles are treated with said colloidal metal.
10. The process as claimed in claim 4 wherein said inorganic particles are treated with said metal colloid.
11. The process as claimed in claim 1 wherein said metal colloid is colloidal silver.
12. The process as claimed in claim 1 wherein said treated precursor is given its final shape by mixing, kneading, extruding, injection molding or (hot) press molding.
13. A plastic body obtainable according to claim 1.
15. The plastic body as claimed in claim 12 in the form of a catheter.

REMARKS

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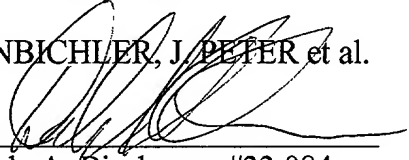
The above claims are submitted for consideration by the Examiner before the initial examination of the subject application. The claims have been amended by inserting the limitation of originally presented claim 5 into claim 1, and therefore does not present new matter. Allowance of the subject application is respectfully requested.

Should any other fee be required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Kagan Binder Deposit Account No. 50-1775 and thereafter notify us of the same.

Respectfully Submitted,

GUGGENBICHLER, J. PETER et al.

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Dated: January 30, 2002

DAB/2629

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APPENDIX A

Marked up version of Claims

1. A process for preparing an antimicrobial plastic body, said process comprising molding a precursor and being characterized in that prior to molding at least one component of the precursor is treated with a metal colloid and inorganic particles are added to the precursor.

4. The process as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ wherein apart from polymeric materials further additives are added to the plastic precursor.

6. The process as claimed in claim 14 wherein said inorganic particles comprise barium sulfate, calcium sulfate, strontium sulfate, titanium oxide, aluminium oxide, silicon oxide, zeolites, mica, talcum or kaolin.

8. The process as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ wherein one or several of the components of the precursor are treated with said colloidal metal.

9. The process as claimed in ~~any one of claims 4 to 6~~ wherein said plastic as well as said inorganic particles are treated with said colloidal metal.

10. The process as claimed in ~~any one of claims 4 to 6~~ wherein said inorganic particles are treated with said metal colloid.

11. The process as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ wherein said metal colloid is colloidal silver.

12. The process as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ wherein said treated precursor is given its final shape by mixing, kneading, extruding, injection molding or (hot) press molding.

13. A plastic body obtainable according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~.

15. The plastic body as claimed in claim 12 ~~or 13~~ in the form of a catheter.

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